

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6024
INFO USIA WASHDC

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FOR STATE MAXINE BURNS

PASS USIA IEU, IOP/G.

EO 11652 NA
TAGS OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION MONDALE VISIT IN OTTAWA JANUARY 17,
1978

1. BOTH THE CTV AND THE CBC NATIONAL EVENING NEWSCASTS ON
JANUARY 17 PROMINENTLY FEATURED COVERAGE OF THE VICE-
PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO OTTAWA, PARTICULARLY MATERIAL FROM HIS
PRESS CONFERENCE CONCERNING GAS, ENERGY, OIL, U.S.-CANADA
ECONOMIC SUMMIT AND THE CONVENTION TAX. CBC FEATURED
SHOTS OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S WALK/SKATE ON THE CANAL WITH
MINISTER OF FITNESS AND SPORT IONA CAMPAGNOLO AND IN THE
CLOSING THERE WAS A BRIEF SHOT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
GETTING THE PROPER EARPHONE TO WORK DURING HIS NEWS
CONFERENCE. FOLLOWING THE CBC'S COVERAGE OF THE VICE-
PRESIDENT'S DAY IN OTTAWA AND HIS NEWS CONFERENCE, CBC DID
A SPECIAL REPORT BY FORMER WASHINGTON AND FORMER OTTAWA
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BUREAU CHIEF DON MCNEIL ON THE STATE OF THE "THIRD OPTION".
THE IMPACT OF THIS REPORT, WHICH FEATURED CUTS OF AN INTER-
VIEW WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER DON JAMIESON, WAS THAT
THE THIRD OPTION WAS EFFECTIVELY NOW NON-EXISTANT. AT THE
END OF THE CTV COVERAGE, EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON THE
TREMENDOUS ACCOLADES THE VICE-PRESIDENT GAVE TO PRIME
MINISTER TRUDEAU AS A WORLD LEADER AND SENIOR WESTERN

STATESMAN. CTV FOCUSSED ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THIS WOULD BE A POLITICAL HELP TO TRUDEAU AND IMPLIED RATHER STRONGLY, THAT IN SPITE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO THIS QUESTION IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ITSELF, THAT INDEED IT WOULD BE A MAJOR HELP TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

2. CBC NATIONAL RADIO GAVE TOP OF THE NEWS COVERAGE TO THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND FOCUSSED ON THE ENERGY, GAS, OIL PORTIONS OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE. ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 18 CBC NEWS FEATURED A REPORT FROM THE EDMONTON OFFICE WHICH SAID THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT WAS GOING TO DISCUSS BEEF FOR GAS SWAPS WITH PREMIER LOUGHEED.

3. THE NATIONALLY CIRCULATED TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL GAVE PROMINENT, ABOVE THE FOLD, SEVEN COLUMN FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO THE MONDALE VISIT. THE HEADLINE READ "U.S. MOVE WORTH MILLIONS TO CANADA". THE FOCUS OF THE ARTICLE WAS ON THE VICE PRESIDENT'S ASSERTION THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S TAX REFORM PACKAGE WOULD INCLUDE A PROVISION TO EXEMPT CANADIANS FROM THE FULL FORCE OF THE CONVENTION TAX RESTRICTION ON U.S. CONVENTIONEERS.

4. BOTH THE CANADIAN PRESS AND UPI WIRE SERVICES FULLY COVERED THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE EMPHASIZING IN AN ALMOST POINT BY POINT FASHION THE ENTIRE LIST OF UNCLASSIFIED

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SUBSTANTIVE AREAS WHICH THE VICE-PRESIDENT SAID HE, THE PRIME MINISTER AND MEMBERS OF THE CABINET HAD DISCUSSED. SPECIFIC CP PICKUP WILL BE REPORTED ON IN THE MEDIA REACTIONS FROM THE VARIOUS CONSULATES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

5. COMMENT: CANADIAN MEDIA COVERAGE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE, SUBSTANTIVE AND BALANCED.
ENDERS

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